



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10

1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900
Seattle, Washington 98101-3140

OFFICE OF THE
REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

Luki Akeklok, Sr.
Chairman
Nunamta Aulukestai
P.O. Box 735
Dillingham, Alaska 99576

Dear Mr. Akeklok,

It is good to hear from you again. I was asked to respond to your letter of September 28, 2010, to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Lisa Jackson. She sends her regards.

We have heard from a large number of people regarding the proposed Pebble Mine. Many have expressed support for the request of the six Bristol Bay villages to invoke our Clean Water Act Section 404(c) authority. Others, such as Governor Parnell of the State of Alaska, have asked us not to use that authority, but to wait for the development of an Environmental Impact Statement and allow the permit process to decide the fate of the Pebble Mine. The EPA takes all of these requests seriously. As you might expect a great deal of information and deliberation is necessary for a decision of such ecological and economic significance. We are in the middle of gathering and considering that information. So, again, we ask your patience as we move through the process.

Thank you for sending the Craciun Research Group report. This is the type of information that helps us make knowledgeable decisions.

As before, we urge you to contact us any time, to discuss issues or to provide additional information regarding this or other issues of significance to you. Our contacts for the proposed Pebble Mine are Patricia McGrath, our Regional Mining Coordinator (206-553-0979), and Phil North, an Ecologist in our Aquatic Resources Unit (907-714-2483).

Sincerely,

Dennis McLarren
Regional Administrator